

# WasteNet

*Fall 2003*



# newsletter

Commercial Solid Waste and Recycling News

## Reason to Celebrate!

This **November 15**, your business can celebrate national **America Recycles Day** (ARD) by making a commitment to purchase more post-consumer recycled content paper products and to rejuvenate your recycling program. The cumulative efforts of businesses really make a difference!

How your business can get started:

- Make it company policy to specify “post-consumer recycled content”



when ordering any paper product including printing and copy paper, envelopes, Post-it® notes, forms, business cards, file folders, notepads, index cards, letterhead — even toilet paper, paper towels, and napkins.

- Label printed communications with “Printed on Recycled Paper”.
- Call the Sunnyvale Commercial Recycling Program at (408) 730-7484 or email [jbenabente@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us](mailto:jbenabente@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us) to find

out how to start or improve your company's recycling program.

- Ask your employees to make an online ARD pledge at [www.americarecyclesday.org](http://www.americarecyclesday.org) and they could win an environmentally-friendly car or other prizes!

For more information on buying recycled office products, you can visit the City's new website at [www.sunnyvale.ca.gov](http://www.sunnyvale.ca.gov) (click on the “Recycling” link and then go to the “Business and Commercial” section). Visit [www.recycleday.com](http://www.recycleday.com) or [www.americarecyclesday.org](http://www.americarecyclesday.org) for ARD information.

## Recycle Your “Universal Wastes”

Laws adopted in 2000 created California's “Universal Waste Rule” (UWR) to simplify how we manage many common hazardous wastes. Fluorescent tubes, as well as a variety of other wastes such as mercury switches and thermostats, batteries (e.g. rechargeables, silver button, and alkaline batteries), and electronic devices (e.g. cell phones) are covered under the UWR.

Businesses should properly dispose of these items by using a recycling service provider or a certified hazardous waste hauler. By choosing the recycling option, businesses may find a decrease in the administrative, processing, shipping and disposal costs that are normally associated with hazardous waste regulations.

Local options for recycling fluorescent tubes\* include:

AERC Inc.  
(800) 628-3675 — toll free  
Hayward, CA  
[www.aercmti.com](http://www.aercmti.com)

Santa Clara County Hazardous Waste Program  
(408) 299-7300  
[www.hhw.org](http://www.hhw.org)

Recycle Lights West  
(800) 884-8982 — toll free  
Hayward, CA

Call (408) 730-7484 to request additional resources for recycling universal wastes. For more information on universal waste regulations, see the Department of Toxic Substance Control's “Managing Universal Waste In California: Rules For Managing Some Common Wastes” fact sheet at [www.dtsc.ca.gov/publications/forms/hwm\\_fs\\_uwr.pdf](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/publications/forms/hwm_fs_uwr.pdf).

\*Please contact company listed for details.  
This list does not constitute an endorsement by the City of Sunnyvale.

## Calendar of Events

Celebrate America Recycles Day  
on November 15th!

Visit [www.recycleday.com](http://www.recycleday.com) or [www.americarecyclesday.org](http://www.americarecyclesday.org) for more information.

Business  
Hazardous Waste Drop-off Events

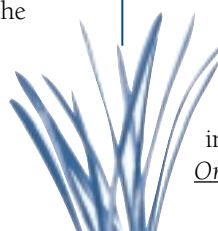
November 14th  
December 19th  
January 16th

Businesses may participate by  
appointment only.

Call (408) 299-7300 for  
more information.

## Grasscycle to Reduce Waste

Grasscycling is the natural recycling of grass by leaving clippings on the lawn when mowing. Grass clippings will quickly decompose, returning valuable nutrients to the soil.



By asking your landscaper to grasscycle, your company may be able to reduce landscaping costs, reduce waste AND produce a healthy, green lawn. For more information, visit [www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Organics/GrassCycling](http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Organics/GrassCycling).

Do you think your business has an exemplary waste reduction and recycling program? Let us know! Your business could be highlighted in the next edition of WasteNet.

# Before You Throw It Away, Consider RAFT

The Resource Area For Teachers (RAFT) is a non-profit organization serving local teachers by providing them with a wide range of interactive learning materials and needed equipment. These items can be used to enhance math, science, technology and art programs. Since teachers often have a very limited (or no) budget for classroom supplies, RAFT works with

businesses such as yours to funnel business discards and other surplus or unwanted items to teachers. These efforts help to bridge the budget gap and enhance educational programs while reducing waste. The City believes that RAFT truly creates a win-win experience — so much so that we’ve been sponsoring member-ships for up to 75 Sunnyvale teachers for the past three years!

Items accepted by RAFT can include everything from:

- old inventory
- manufacturing scraps
- surplus office supplies
- old letterhead
- computers
- furniture
- outdated promotional items
- discontinued products
- printers and other equipment
- cardboard tubes
- CDs
- old software

... and more!

By putting less in your garbage dumpster, your business may also be able to **save money on disposal costs**. Contact RAFT at (408) 451-1420 or visit [www.raft.net](http://www.raft.net). Donation pick-up or drop-off is available.

Contributions to RAFT are tax deductible AND reduce material going into your dumpster!



## Solid Waste and Recycling Resources

### City of Sunnyvale Commercial Recycling Program

Business waste reduction, recycling, reuse, and buying recycled assistance — (408) 730-7484 [www.sunnyvale.ca.gov](http://www.sunnyvale.ca.gov) (click “Recycling” link) [jbenabente@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us](mailto:jbenabente@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us)

### Revenue Division

Commercial garbage service start/stop & billing questions — (408) 730-7681

### Santa Clara County Hazardous Waste Recycling & Disposal Program

Hazardous waste drop off appointments & information — (408) 299-7300 [www.hhw.org](http://www.hhw.org)

### SMaRT Station® (301 Carl Rd, SV)

Disposal/recycling drop-off center; 7 days a week, 8am-5pm — (408) 752-8530 [www.sunnyvale.ca.gov](http://www.sunnyvale.ca.gov) (click “Recycling” link)

### Specialty Solid Waste & Recycling

Commercial cardboard recycling service start/stop — (408) 565-9900 [www.sswr.com](http://www.sswr.com)

## WasteNet

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## Rev up Your Bottles and Cans Recycling Program

You may have heard the California Department of Conservation’s new attention-grabbing campaign slogan to increase bottle and can recycling, “Recycle. It’s Good for the Bottle, It’s Good for the Can.” In addition to its creative radio ads, the State has produced several posters to help encourage recycling.



You can help rev up your bottles and cans recycling program at work by taking advantage of these free posters. To view and/or download posters, visit [www.bottlesandcans.com](http://www.bottlesandcans.com) (“Local Access” section). Or, contact Sunnyvale’s Commercial Recycling Program at (408) 730-7484 to request a supply.



“First Crush” Poster

“When Bottles Dream” poster

Rain or shine, please keep your refuse and recycling container lids closed.

Printed on 100% Recycled Content Paper, 50% Post Consumer Waste, with soy-based ink.

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